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RECREATION NEWSLETTER



Dear Fellow Workers:

The three camps that I have attended thus far this season supplied me with several ideas to share with you.

Vespers were a part of two of the programs. Interesting variety was a characteristic of the ones put on at the Wisconsin Recreation Leaders' Laboratory. One based on Scum of the Earth is enclosed. It is particularly well-suited to older youth and adult camps. Another included Ballad for Americans, Victor records No. 26516 and No. 26517. The music was discussed a little, then played. Many members of the group talked informally about the basic ideas afterward and borrowed the records and the descriptive booklet to enjoy again during the week.

The Girl Reserves of the Washington Y.W.C.A. prepared and presented a vesper during National Camp. It was based on Youth's Responsibilities. This, too, is enclosed because of the well-balanced outline and the responsive reading written by the group. Each of the three talks was about 3 minutes long and discussed a phase of youth's responsibility.

As a part of an evening's program at National Camp, The Happy Journey, by Thornton Wilder, was put on in a most professional manner by the Pierce Hall Players. This excellent one-act play is well-adapted to production by skillfully directed amateurs and offers opportunity for the discussion of family relationships also.

The committee in charge of the candlelighting at National Camp worked into the ceremony the major points made in the daily discussions. The result was timely and impressive. A copy of this ceremony is enclosed since it may offer suggestions for other groups interested in working out a similar summing up of their thinking.

A small book, I Am an American, compiled by Frances Cavanah and Lloyd E. Smith, 128 pp., Racine, Wis., Whitman Publishing Company, was used as the basis for a series of flag-raising ceremonies worked out for the Albemarle 4-H Camp. The American's Creed, by William Tyler Page, was the theme. Each day a brief statement was made emphasizing one of the points in its final paragraph, "I therefore believe it is my duty to my country to love it; to support its constitution; to obey its laws; to respect its flag; and to defend it against all enemies." The copy of the ceremony will be available through this office.

The results of the workshop on camp standards that was conducted last winter by the American Camping Association are now available in an inexpensive book, *Marks of Good Camping, a Synthesis of Current Standards*, published by the Association Press, 347 Madison Avenue, New York, N. Y., 1941. 86 pp.

The book is a valuable one, worthy of serious study by camp directors, counselors, and committee members. The committee points out that "desirable practices" rather than principles are presented in the hope that people who are conducting camps will share in refining and amplifying the points that are made. Desirable practices are listed in program, staff selection and supervision, administration, health, safety, and sanitation.

The first chapter on the significance of camp standards not only gives the background of the report but suggests ways of increasing its usefulness to the individual camp as well as to the camping movement.

#### Recreation Congress

The National Recreation Congress will be held in Baltimore, Md., September 29 to October 3. The discussion topics include several on defense. Three sessions on rural recreation are tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, September 30.

#### Recreation and Defense

Ten regional representatives and 4-H local workers are serving in the Division of Recreation of which Mark McCloskey is director in the Federal Security Agency. They are located in the areas most affected by defense activities.

Local land use committees and recreation leaders may want to get in touch with these coordinators through Mr. McCloskey's office.

#### Flag Respect and Courtesy

The flag is becoming an increasingly precious symbol during these difficult days, and everyone is more anxious than ever before to be meticulous in its use.

Questions have been asked concerning the position of the flag under several conditions. The answers that have been prepared may be of general interest.

1. The flag of the United States is generally in the center position in front of a parade or on a float.
2. The flag should be at the speaker's right on a platform.
3. If fastened on the wall, the flag should be in the center and above the heads of guests or speakers when standing.

The blue field should be in the upper left-hand corner whether it is displayed vertically or horizontally.

4. If the flag is suspended vertically over the street, the blue field should be to the north or to the east.

Sources of additional information are:

The Flag of the United States: Its History and Symbolism, by James A. Moss, second edition, revised, enlarged, 1933, Washington, D. C., United States Flag Association, 923 15th Street, NW.

A course of study on flag education has been prepared by the American Legion. It is available through the Legion Headquarters, Indianapolis, Ind.

#### Brief Statements

Alexis Carrel, of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, made a strong plea for the training of mind and character in an address on What Type of Physical Fitness for America? Differentiating between mere health and physical fitness, he said that the latter connoted "strength and endurance." But, using the victories of little Greece over Italy as illustration, he declared that health and physical fitness, as so defined, were not enough for the needs of today. "The type of physical fitness that we need is a complex compound of physical and spiritual elements.....The strength, skill, and speed and endurance of the body depend on character as well as on the quality of the blood circulating through the muscles.....Love, enthusiasm, hope, dedication are the wings of intelligence, the strength of the body."

School and Society, Vol. 53, No. 1358,  
January 4, 1941.

The mind is dyed the color of its thoughts - its leisure thoughts.

-- Dean Inge.

I find the great thing in this world is not so much where we stand as in what direction we are moving.

-- Oliver Wendell Holmes.

His one secret was his unconquerable interest in life. His second, was as simple. On excursions to town or merely on walks along neighboring roads, his usual companion was the little boy. He never lost touch with childhood.

It was to this, I think, that the Biblical patriarchs owed their long, sound years. In that pastoral life the family remained closely

knit, no matter to what size it grew. There were always children around the elders. Children through whose eyes they might see again the wonder and beauty of the world, through whose questions they might find once more their own far childhood. -- Maurice Maeterlinck (This Week Magazine, January 26, 1941.).

The most extensive enterprise in adult education in America is undoubtedly found in the rural areas. It has not called itself adult education. Indeed, to many people occupied with urban forums and discussion groups it has not seemed to be adult education at all. But the work of thousands of county agents, agricultural extension lecturers, and home demonstration agents satisfies every test we put to adult education.

These teachers have gone forth to meet adults on the level of their felt wants and needs. They have had to adjust their teaching not only to the interests and capacities of their people but to their life conditions. A "class" might mean a demonstration to a dozen farmers gathered in a barn, or a lecture to a hundred farmers and their wives gathered in a local church. With no object in mind but to serve the needs of farm people, these agricultural teachers have had to learn the nature of those needs and of the people who have them.

One further aspect of rural training should be noted. Both county agents and home demonstration agents discover that, even if they wished to do so, they could not successfully confine their work to adults. For young people are constantly in the farm picture. Hence, many rural teachers quite naturally become leaders in the 4-H Clubs that are the peculiarly rural response to the needs of young people..

Rural life, in its many-sided character, presents an opportunity for the most intelligent kind of leadership in adult education. It is leadership that requires the rigorous and extended training that goes with entrance into a profession.

From Leaders for Adult Education, by  
Harry A. Overstreet and Bonaro W. Overstreet, 202 pp.  
New York, Amer. Assoc. for Adult Educ., 1941.

The school and the church must be kept as centers where minds are rallied around their loves and hopes rather than around their hates and fears... Youth must be made to feel that there is a tomorrow worth working for... Let us convince the young that all is not over just because everything is interrupted.

-- Ralph W. Sockman.

Merely legal guarantees of the civil liberties of free belief, free expression, free assembly are of little avail if in early life freedom of communication, of give and take of ideas, facts, experiences is cloaked by mutual suspicion, by abuse, by fear and hatred.

These destroy the essential conditions of the democratic way of living even more effectually than open coercion.

-- John Dewey.

Recall that recreation is America's biggest business and that commercial recreation accounts for perhaps two-fifths of the total annual cost of recreation, that is, roughly speaking, somewhere around three or four billion dollars. Place beside that figure the simple fact that probably commercialized recreation employs less than two hundred thousand persons out of a total of forty-eight millions; that is, only four percent of the total employed workers in the United States are required to extract between three and four billion dollars from the pockets of American people.

From Chicago Recreation Survey, Vol. V, 1940, published by the Chicago Recreation Commission and Northwestern University.

Books Costing 50 Cents or Less

Doll House and Other Gifts You Can Easily Make. T. R. Le Sueur and S. P. Le Sueur, Home Institute Inc., 109 West Nineteenth Street, New York, N. Y. 1939. Gifts boys, girls, and grown-ups can make.

Safety and Safety Education. Annotated bibliography prepared by Safety Education Projects of Research Division, National Education Association, Washington, D. C.

Fun at the Meetin' Place,

This Way to the Tropics,

An April Shower,

A Hearty Valentine Party,

All reprinted from "Recreation" and available from the National Recreation Association, 315 Fourth Avenue, New York.

Our Club, A play for 4-H Club members. 24 pp. National Committee on Boys and Girls Club Work, 56 East Congress Street, Chicago, 1941. A dramatic interpretation of club work staged for the 19th National 4-H Club Congress. It combines a choir, brief skits, tableaus, slides, and a narrator.

Arts and Crafts with Inexpensive Materials. Chester Geppart Marsh. 96 pp. Girl Scouts, Inc., 14 West Forty-Ninth Street, New York, N. Y. 1941. Suggestions for the use of natural materials (berries, bark, nuts, bone, grasses, husks, splints) and odds and ends (tin cans,

wooden boxes, ends of leather) to create useful and attractive articles of good design.

Public Affairs Pamphlets. Public Affairs Committee, 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, N. Y. A series of 50 booklets by well-known people on general problems of economics, agriculture, consumer credit, consumer employment, youth and education, social welfare, government, defense, health, and housing.

Selected List of Ten-and-Fifteen-Cent Books, 1941. Dorothy Cadwallader, Association for Childhood Education, 1201 Sixteenth Street, NW., Washington, D. C.

Guidance for Rural Youth. M. M. Chambers. 22 pp. Reprinted from the Educational Record for April 1941. American Youth Commission, 744 Jackson Place, NW., Washington, D. C. A report on the Institute for Rural Youth Guidance held in Washington, D. C.; in February. The sections include vocational training, occupational adjustment, education for rural culture, migration for teaching and employment, health, the impact of defense, and rural community organization.

Books Costing 50 Cents to \$1

Trail and Camp Fire Stories. Edited by Julia M. Seton. Appleton-Century, New York, N. Y. 1940. Indian stories told by Ernest Thompson Seton, well-adapted for retelling by his wife.

Campfire Tonight! Richard James Hurley. 104 pp. Peak Publications, Ann Arbor, Mich. 1940. A guide to stories and storytelling for adolescents. The author describes his own experiences with stories and Scouts and gives chapters of notes on tales and their sources.

Soap Carving, Cinderella of Sculpture. By Lester Gaba. 78 pp. Studio Publications, Inc., New York, N. Y. 1940. Descriptions and illustrations that make this craft seem irresistible.

Books Costing Over \$1

Actor's Handbook. Carolyn Silverthorne. Expression Co., Boston, Mass. 1940. Scenes from good plays arranged without notes. Excellent for students of acting.

Parents Can Learn. Helen E. Hanford. 263 pp. Henry Holt, 257 Fourth Avenue, New York, N. Y. 1940. A cleverly written, popular book that includes chapters on adolescence, camps, boys growing up, health, and parental adjustments.

This Way, Please. Eleanor Boykin. Macmillan Co., New York, N. Y. 1940. A convincingly written and well-illustrated book on personal habits, etiquette, and customs addressed to high-school boys and girls.

To Pet or Not To Pet. For daughters and mothers, by Valeria Hopkins Parker. 138 pp. Bobbs-Merrill, New York, N. Y. A discussion of the values of monogamy, and the why's and wherefore's of controls on conduct in adolescent years. Dr. Parker argues for the avoidance of high emotional stimulation in the firm conviction that premarital continence leads to a surer, happier marriage.

"Singing America" Accompaniment Edition. A. D. Zanzig. 190 pp. C. C. Birchard Co., Boston, Mass. 1941. A book that will be appreciated by the amateur or the professional. Excellent characteristic accompaniments have been written by Mr. Zanzig for many of the folk songs. Directions are given for eight singing games.

Leisure Time Needs and Resources in Swoyers, Pennsylvania. By Evelyn Buchan Crook. viii + 86 pp. A competent and unpretentious survey of a small valley mining town undertaken to discover what need there might be for a community house to serve young people.

Your Neighborhood Club, A Manual for Group Leaders. Abel J. Gregg and Charlotte Himber. 108 pp. Association Press, 347 Madison Avenue, New York, N. Y. 1939. Written from the city boy point of view but based on fundamental principles.

Working at Play In Summer Camps. Abbie Graham. 128 pp. The Womans Press, 600 Lexington Avenue, New York, N. Y. 1941. A book that aims to help "counselors in camp, especially younger counselors, become more skilled in working at other people's play," delightfully written, sound, and convincing. Miss Graham is able to see a situation with the eyes of youth and is gifted with the ability to point out the adult in his proper proportion in the picture. A camp staff would enjoy reading the book aloud and discussing it.

#### State and Federal Bulletins

Useful and Ornamental Gourds. W. R. Beattie. U. S. Dept. Agr. Farmers' Bulletin No. 1849, October 1940, 14 pp. Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. Describes varieties, culture, diseases, shaping, gathering, preparation, and uses of gourds.

How to Choose A Play and How to Write One. Robert E. Gard, H. Darkes Albright, A. M. Drummond. N. Y. Agr. Col. (Cornell) Ext. Bul. 449, 32 pp., illus., Ithaca, 1940. A practical booklet written in a clear and convincing style.

Forestry for 4-H Clubs. U. S. Dept. Agr. Misc. Pub. 395, 50 pp., illus. January 1941. Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. 10 cents.

Worker's Health Series. Public Health Service, Federal Security Agency. Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. 5 cents each. 1941. An attempt to interest a worker in his own health. About 40 pamphlets are planned to cover such subjects as flu, appendicitis, and other nonindustrial illnesses and also such occupational hazards as toxic chemicals, fumes, and dusts. Clearly written and well adapted to general use, especially with boys.

Know Your Community. Bess Goodykoontz. Federal Security Agency, Office of Education Leaflet no. 57, 35 pp. 1941. Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. 10 cents. A "study-bulletin" prepared as a guide for "citizen groups who want to get at the fundamentals of their community problems."

There are nine other leaflets in the "Know Your School" series, several of which will be of interest to groups studying their communities.

Learning to Live Through Play With Playmates and Play Materials. Florence Collins Weed. Ohio Agr. Col. Ext. Bul. 212. 48 pp. Columbus, 1941. An excellent, well-illustrated booklet on the why and where of play and the choice and use of toys and play equipment, principally of children under 10 years old.

Neighborhood Nights. A set of 12 suggested parties. June Donahue. Ark. Agr. Col. Ext. S387 - 2 - 41. Fayetteville, 1941. Mimeographed. Practical suggestions for games, decorations, and refreshments.

High Schools and Sex Education, edited by Benjamin C. Gruenberg, U. S. Public Health Service. Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. A revised portion of the teachers' manual, prepared in cooperation with the United States Office of Education. The book points out the fact that sex education in the true sense can be taught only as part and parcel of all the other courses. It discusses the responsibilities of the teachers of social science, literature, home economics, physical education, biology and hygiene, and emphasizes the importance of helping young people to understand the emotional and social implications as well as the physiological facts of sex.

Organization and Administration of School Health Work. John W. Studebaker and Fred Moore, M. D. Office of Education, Federal Security Agency. Superintendents of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. 1939. No. 12. 15 cents.

#### In the Magazines

Building Rural Communities. Ruth Buxton Sayre, Womans Press, May 1941. Pp. 220 - 222. A slightly condensed version of Mrs. Sayre's excellent presidential address delivered at the American Country Life

Conference last fall. Four principles by which liberty and freedom may be protected are discussed and a strong plea is made for "a rebirth of faith, faith that what ought to be done, can be done."

Leader or Signboard. Gertrude E. Moulton, M. D. Health and Physical Education, Vol. XII, No. 5, May 1941, p. 293. "What can we do about it? What do we mean by education for democracy?" is answered sagely by the director of physical education for women at Oberlin College. Dr. Moulton says the problems involved are complicated by adults who are so individualistic that they accept no responsibility for the common welfare, who fear change, and who have a feeling of personal futility because of their inability to judge values. She discusses the opportunities that should be provided for young people to feel the "worth-whileness" of their group and to discover themselves a responsible part of a forward-moving group; the contagious faith, the courageous attitudes toward life that leaders may transmit to youth; the help in measuring real values against mere symbols of value, "real personal growth and real spiritual strengthening, --- a unification of values which will help in the integration of life."

#### Records and Films

An album (C-47) of four square dance records, three with calls and one without, has been issued by the Columbia Recording Co, 799 Seventh Avenue, New York, N. Y. The calls are by Lawrence Loy, the Massachusetts Extension Specialist in Community Organization and Recreation. Carson Robinson and his Old Timers supply the music.

Twenty-three of the songs from "Singing America" have been recorded. The records may be purchased separately or in an album of four from the R. C. A. Manufacturing Co., Camden, N. J., or from the National Recreation Association, 315 Fourth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

Films on sports are available from the National Section of Women's Athletics, 1201 Sixteenth St., NW., Washington, D. C. The subjects cover fundamentals and team or match play in such sports as archery, tennis, softball, and swimming.

The National Industrial Council, 14 West Forty-Ninth Street, New York City, is making available without charge, other than prepayment of return shipment, to schools, clubs, camps, and similar groups a number of educational films. "America, the Land of Progress and Freedom" is presented in five sound slide films - "Men and Machines," "There Goes an American," "We, the People," "Your Money's Worth," and "You Bet Your Life," a highway safety film. "The Drama of American Industry" is presented in four motion pictures - "America, Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow," "Frontiers of the Future," "America Marching On," and "Men and Machines." Still another film, "Your Town - A Story of America," is available.

Further information may be obtained from the National Industrial Council.

-- Recreation Bulletin Service issued by the  
National Recreation Association,  
315 Fourth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

A large collection of material is enclosed for your use. None of it is available in quantity from this office but you may feel free to duplicate it if you wish.

Cordially yours,

Ella Gardner,  
Recreation Specialist.